

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION - DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER AND
OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND PERFORMANCE
AUGUST 18, 2020**

ITEM 4

SUBJECT

REDESIGN AND UPDATE OF THE ELECTRONIC ANNUAL REPORT FOR DRINKING WATER SYSTEMS

DISCUSSION

The Division of Drinking Water (DDW) regulates the approximately 7,400 public water systems in the state. As part of its regulatory program, DDW requires public water systems to submit an annual report providing information, including drinking water production and quality, infrastructure and operations, and rates and charges. Since the drinking water program transferred to the State Water Board in 2014, DDW, in collaboration with the Office of Research, Planning, and Performance (ORPP), has expanded the EAR to include information relevant to fulfilling various statutory objectives, including the Human Right to Water and water conservation and efficiency goals. In 2018, DDW convened an EAR advisory group to gather stakeholder input on EAR questions and data uses. In 2019, DDW initiated a process to redesign the EAR to make the reporting process easier for public water systems and to help implement the State Water Board's Open Water Data Act (AB 1755) responsibilities.

The informational item will describe the EAR redesign process and explain how the staff has been using EAR data to inform programs and statutory requirements.

POLICY ISSUE

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A.